

9 August 1954

Mr. Abbott Washburn
Acting Director
United States Information Agency
Washington, D. C.

Dear Abbott:

As I told you over the telephone, we sincerely appreciate your kind note of 30 July 1954 with regard to the Bissell Report. Of course it only could have been accomplished with the fine collaboration we had from you, State and others, in its preparation.

Dick Bissell is on his holiday, but I shall see that he has a copy of your letter.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

AWD:hea
Distribution:
Orig - Addressee
1 cc - Mr. Bissell (b/basic)
1 cc - DCI file
1 cc - ER file
1 cc - Reading

July 30, 1954

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Allen:

Reference is made to your letter of July 23 with which you transmitted the "Report of the Survey of Intelligence Needs and Assets of the U.S. Information Agency." I agree wholeheartedly with the conclusions reached in the Report.

I have approved those recommendations which relate to my area of responsibility, and have commenced the staff work necessary for their implementation.

I agree that implementation of the Report will require continued consultation and cooperation between the interested agencies, especially during the critical formative stages of our own Intelligence Unit. I am designating Mr. Henry Lewis as a central point within USIA for such consultation with Mr. Hissell who, with his staff, has won the confidence and respect of every element of USIA with which they have come in contact.

The survey has already helped solve some of our most pressing problems. Several new procedures have been established, both within USIA and between USIA and other agencies, as a direct result of the survey. I have every hope that adoption of all the recommendations will result in a major improvement in intelligence support for USIA, and in utilization of its intelligence assets.

Sincerely,

Abbott Washburn
Acting Director

The Honorable
Allen W. Dulles,
Director, Central Intelligence Agency,
2430 "M" Street, N.W.
Washington 25, D.C.

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Theodore C. Streibert
Director,
United States Information Agency
Washington 25, D.C.

July 23, 54

Dear Mr. Streibert:

Reference is made to my letter to you of 22 April and your reply of 23 April 1954 on the subject of undertaking a survey of the intelligence needs and assets of the United States Information Agency. In pursuance of that exchange of letters I am transmitting herewith the "Report of the Survey of Intelligence Needs and Assets of the United States Information Agency." It has been prepared under the direction of Mr. Richard Bissell, Special Assistant to the Director of Central Intelligence. I agree with the conclusions reached in the report and suggest that you approve and implement these recommendations which are within your responsibility.

I have approved those recommendations which relate to my area of responsibility and am ready to take the steps necessary to carry them out as soon as you have had an opportunity to consider this report.

It is my belief, which I trust you will share, that the implementation of the report will require continued consultation and cooperation between our two agencies, as well as with other agencies, particularly the Departments of State and Defense, and the Operations Coordinating Board. Accordingly, I have requested Mr. Bissell and his staff to serve as a central point in CIA for such consultation and to render such assistance to USIA and other interested agencies as is appropriate.

Mr. Bissell and his staff have told me about, and I appreciate, the wholehearted cooperation and assistance accorded them by officials in every component of USIA in Washington, New York, and in USIS missions visited in Europe and Latin America.

It is my hope that the outcome of the survey will not only be to solve some of the pressing problems of USIA but also to clear up some of the intelligence problems which have confronted the intelligence community for several years.

Sincerely,

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ALLEN W. DULLES
Director

Attachment

SA/DCI/PC:JQR:KM (8 July 1954)

Distribution:

O & 1 - Director, USIA

2 - DCI

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CONCUR:

HERBERT H. WISSE, JR.

Special Assistant to the Director
for Planning and Coordination

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